

Abstract

A method is provided for multi-pass semitransparent processing having three passes. The method provides for displaying image data about a plurality of objects including opaque objects and semitransparent objects on a computer display screen by using an updatable Z-buffer as a storage, utilizing information about a depth direction for each object. A hardware resource capable of implementing the multi-pass method of the present invention is also disclosed. The hardware resource is preferably implemented as a drawing apparatus which can display image data about a plurality of objects including opaque objects and semitransparent objects on a computer display screen, utilizing information about a depth direction for each object.